

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 USIA-15 /026 W

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FM AMCONSUL STUTTGART

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2089

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS STUTTGART 0577

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJ: SISTER CITIES ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN AND TUEBINGEN, GERMANY

REF: STATE 132222

1. POST GREATLY APPRECIATES DEPT, GITTENS AND PROF
CREARY ASSISTANCE WHICH HAS GONE LONG WAY TO SOOTHING
TUEBINGEN SENSIBILITIES. CONSUL GENERAL SAW TUEBINGEN
MAYOR GMELIN JUNE 23 AND HE WAS CLEARLY PLEASED AT
ANN ARBOR TELEGRAM (PARA 2 REFTEL).

2. WITH HELP AMERICA HOUSE DIRECTOR BOYLE, WE HAVE
LEARNED THAT TUEBINGEN IS SENDING TELEGRAM IN REPLY
DIRECTLY TO MAYOR STEPHENSON, ANN ARBOR. WE HAVE NOT
SEEN TEXT BUT UNDERSTAND THAT MESSAGE WILL: CONFIRM
ARRIVAL OF CHARTER FLIGHT, STATE THAT JAEGER, THEIS
AND ONE OTHER WILL ARRIVE FOR JULY 23-28 CEREMONIES
AND CLEAR UP HOUSING REQUIREMENTS.

RE HOUSING, WE HAVE LEARNED SEPARATELY FROM
TUEBINGEN TRAVEL BUREAU REDER, WHICH IS MAKING
ARRANGEMENTS THAT ONLY 35 PERSONS FROM TUEBINGEN OF
TOTAL CHARTER GROUP WILL BE ABOARD AND THAT ALL HAVE
PRIVATE ARRANGEMENTS IN ANN ARBOR OR ELSEWHERE, PRI-
MARILY WITH PERSONAL FRIENDS. THEREFORE, WE CONCLUDE
IT LIKELY THERE WILL BE NO NEED FOR DORMITORY ACCOMMO-
DATIONS, BUT WE CANNOT VOUCH FOR THIS INFO 100 PERCENT.

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3. GMELIN TOLD CONSUL GENERAL THAT MUCH AS HE REGRET-
TED IT, THERE LITTLE LIKELIHOOD TUEBINGEN COULD MAKE

SWITCH TO AUGUST 13-18 GERMAN FESTIVAL AT ANN ARBOR
FROM JULY 23-28 DATES. REASONS CLEARLY LIE IN CHARTER
FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS AND FACT THAT TRAVEL AGENT HAD TO
GO BEYOND TUEBINGEN TO FILL UP PLANE. GMELIN SAID
NOTHING DEFINITE YET BUT HE IS THINKING HIMSELF OF
PRIVATE VISIT TO ANN ARBOR SOMETIME AFTER MID-OCTOBER.
IN THIS CONNECTION. CONGEN NOTES THAT OCTOBER 13 IS

DATE ELECTION OF NEW TUEBINGEN LORD MAYOR AND GMELIN
HAS ALREADY TOLD US THAT HE WILL NOT BE CANDIDATE.
RATHER, HE SAID HE WILL DEVOTE FULL TIME TO HIS LEADING
ROLE IN GERMAN SPORTS ASSOCIATION, WHICH IS NATIONAL
WEST GERMAN ORGANIZATION HEAVILY ENGAGED IN INTERNATIONAL
AND DOMESTIC SPORTS ARRANGEMENTS, INCLUDING HIGHLY
POLITICAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH EAST GERMANS. THUS, GMELIN
WILL CONTINUE TO BE OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST TO US EVEN
IF HE DECLINES ALMOST CERTAIN RE-ELECTION PROSPECT AS
MAYOR. RUCHTI

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SISTER CITY PROGRAMS, ANN ARBOR, TUEBINGEN
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STUTT00577
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740168-0849
From: STUTTGART
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740610/aaaaaiok.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 132222
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 AUG 2002 by PhilliRO>; APPROVED <13 JAN 2003 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SISTER CITIES ANN ARBOR, MICHGAN AND TUEBINGEN, GERMANY
TAGS: SCUL, US, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005